

राजपत्र, हिमाचल प्रदेश

(श्रसाधारण)

हिमाचल प्रदेश राज्यशासन द्वारा प्रकाशित

शिमला, मंगलवार, २६ मार्च, १६६६/८ चैत्र, १८८८

GOVERNMENT OF HIMACHAL PRADESH

CIVIL SUPPLIES DEPARTMENT

NOTIFICATION

Simla-4, the 24th February, 1966

No. 5-26/65-CS.—The Lieutenant Governor, Himachal Pradesh, is pleased to rescind with immediate effect the Himachal Pradesh Cement Control Order, 1959 made by him under section 18G of the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951 (65 of 1951).

By order,
H. R. MAHAJAN,
Secretary,

Copy of letter No. 9-15/65-CEM., II, dated 13th December, 1965 from Officer on Special Duty to Government of India, Ministry of Industry and Supply (Department of Industry), New Delhi to the Chief Secretary to the Government of Himachal Pradesh, Simla.

Subject.—Decontrol of cement in respect of price and distribution of cement— Procurement of cement thereafter.

In pursuance of the announcement made by the Prime Minister in the Parliament on the 26th August, 1965, the details of the procedure for decontrol of cement have been under discussion with the cement industry for sometime past. A statement was thereafter made by the Minister of Industry in the Parliament on the 18th November, 1965, a copy of which is attached. It gives the further developments. It has now been decided to decontrol cement with effect from 1st January, 1966. Government of India will rescind its Cement Control Order, 1961 issued under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act, 1951. So far as the State Control Orders are concerned,

it will be necessary for them also to be rescinded. This has already been mentioned to the Chief Ministers when the Minister for Industry met them on the 6th September, 1965 and it was then agreed that action would be taken by the State Governments/Union Territories concerned to rescind their Orders. Wherever the Government of India had delegated powers to the State Governments/Union Territories under the Industries (Development and Regulation) Act/Essential Commodities Act to enable the latter to promulgate the State Cement Control Orders, these powers are proposed to be withdrawn. But before doing so, the Government of India would like to be assured that the State Governments/Union Territories concerned are rescinding their Control Orders with effect from January 1, 1966. So far as the Assam and West Bengal are concerned, at present control on retail selling price and distribution of cement is exercised by them under the State Act. They are requested to rescind their State Cement Control Order with effect from January 1, 1966. As the time is short, we shall be grateful if you will give urgent consideration to this matter and send your confirmation to reach us well in advance, say by December 20, 1965.

- 2. Thus with effect from the 1st January, 1966 there will be no legal authority to control the price and distribution of cement throughout India. The State Trading Corporation of India will no longer be dealing with the price and distribution of cement, the Department of Industry will not be responsible for the distribution of cement to various Government consumers, State Governments and other Sponsoring authorities.
- 3. However, to enable smooth change-over from a long period of control to a period of decontrol and to ensure that in the event of decontrol the prices do not shoot up immediately, the Cement Manufacturers' Association has agreed to form their own Organisation called "Cement Manufacturers' Sales Co-ordinating Organisation" with headquarters in Bombay to take over the present functions of the State Trading Corporation of India in so far as these relate to cement distribution. Their object in doing so is to assure all concerned that supplies to every consumer will continue un-interrupted on the same basis and pattern as hitherto.
- A quantity of 50 per cent of the total production (all varieties of cement) by each unit will be reserved for supply to Government indentors under the rate contract as per the allotment indicated by this Department. The allotment for the quarter January-March, 1966 in your case is 2,800 Tonnes. It is for the present based approximately on the despatches during 1964 to each rate contract consumer. You may now furnish direct to the Cement Manufacturers Association's Sales Co-ordinating Organisation, Express Building, Opposite Churchgate Railway Station, Bombay-1, further details about the consignee and destination etc., to enable them to arrange supplies. It is realised that this allotment may not meet the entire requirement of Government consumers. Any additional requirement for Government purposes and the requirement of those consumers who have hitherto, been obtaining supplies outside the rate contract will now have to be obtained from the portion outside the Government's reserve quota by direct negotiations with the Sales Co-ordinating Organisation, who have promised to maintain the pattern of past supplies to such consumers. The price to be paid will however be at public rates.
- 5. All Manufacturers/Selling Agents shall honour all Government rate contract outstanding orders and valid authorisations issued during the previous two quarters and upto the date of decontrol but at the revised price.

6. The Organisation has assured Government that the pattern of distribution will be so arranged that no areas are starved of cement and especially the remote areas will continue to receive supplies on the same pattern as hitherto. A statement showing total supplies both under Central and State quotas of cement to each State during 1964 is attached for information.

7. With effect from the date of decontrol, the industry will be increasing the price of unpacked cement by Rs. 16 per tonne with a rebate of Rs. 6 per tonne on supplies under the rate contract. At present the State Governments have been fixing the retail prices, it will not be necessary for them to do so with effect from the 1st January, 1966. The Sales Co-ordinating Organisation will take steps to publicise the retail prices throughout the country particularly at village and Taluk levels. The packing charges will continue to be fixed every quarter according to the present formula.

- 8. The new pattern of price will remain in force for a period of 12 months from the date of decontrol and will be reviewed hereafter by the producers and Government.
- 9. Each manufacturer is allowed to manufacture special varieties of cement subject to obtaining licence/permission from Government for their manufacture upto a maximum limit of 3 per cent of production capacity of each manufacturer. This limit is not applicable in case of M/s. Travancore Cement Ltd., and the Associated Cement Companies Ltd. (in respect of Porbander units) which are already producing a large quantity of white cement. The special varieties will be Hydrophobic cement, Rapid Hardening cement, Low Hleat cement, Portland Blast Furnace Slag cement, Pozzolana cement and such other regular cements. There will be no price limitation on the sale of these special varieties of cement.